Remarks

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-6, 8-16, 18-27 and 29-30 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-30 are presented for examination.

In the Office Action, claims 1-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Mathews et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,760,716 ("Mathews").

Applicants submit that Mathews does not disclose the invention as claimed. Mathews discloses a method, apparatus, and article of manufacture for compressing vector data. The vector data is normalized to create normalized vector data. A history buffer is searched for a longest matching vector data that matches the normalized vector data. The longest matching vector data is encoded by assigning a substitution code. The vector data is normalized by translating the vector data to an origin and scaling the vector data to a unit square. The substitution code includes a denormalization function, which converts the normalized vector data to vector data. In addition, the step of searching in the history buffer includes storing in a hash table a hashing function of the history buffer vector data, the hash table having a plurality of entries having a pointer to a location in the history buffer. The vector data in compared to the history buffer data pointed to by the hash table entry. See Mathews at col. 1, ll. 44-56.

Claim 1 of the present application recites identifying a block of data within an electronic message, which is found in a previous electronic message, generating a pointer identifying the block of data in the previous electronic message, and replacing the block of data in the electronic message with the pointer. Applicants submit that nowhere in Mathews is there disclosed identifying a block of data within an electronic message, generating a pointer identifying a block of data in a previous electronic message, or replacing the block of data in the electronic message with the pointer. In fact, Mathews discloses compression techniques specifically designed for vector graphics data, as opposed to electronic message

compression. See Mathews at col. 1, ll. 40-41. Therefore, claim 1 is patentable over Mathews.

Claims 2-10 depend from claim 1 and include additional limitations. Thus, claims 2-10 are also patentable over Mathews.

Claim 11 recites message identification logic for identifying a previous electronic message, which contains a block of data found in a new electronic message. Therefore, for the reasons described above with respect to claim 1, claim 11 is also patentable over Mathews. Because claims 12-20 depend from claim 11 and include additional limitations, claims 12-20 are also patentable over Mathews.

Claim 21 recites an interface that compresses an electronic message by searching for prior electronic messages transmitted to or received from a data processing device which include a block of data found in the electronic message and replacing the block of data with a pointer to the block of data in the prior electronic messages. Consequently, for the reasons described above with respect to claim 1, claim 21 is also patentable over Mathews. Since claims 22-30 depend from claim 21 and include additional limitations, claims 22-30 are also patentable over Mathews.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome, and that the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims as amended be allowed.

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: _4/9/02_

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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made
Insertions are underlined, deletions are bracketed.

1   1.   (Amended)   A method for compressing [a] an electronic message comprising:

2   identifying a block of data within said electronic message which is found in a

3 previous electronic message;

4   generating a pointer identifying said block of data in said previous electronic

5 message; and

6   replacing said block of data in said electronic message with said pointer.

1   2.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 1 further comprising:

2   transmitting said electronic message to a data processing device, said data

3 processing device having said previous electronic message stored thereon.

1   3.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 2 further comprising:

2   decompressing said electronic message by inserting said block of data from said

3 previous electronic message into said message.

1   4.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 1 further comprising:

2   identifying said previous electronic message based on characters in a subject field

3 of said message [message's subject field].

1   5.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 4 wherein said characters include text

2 indicating that said electronic message is a response to said previous electronic message.

1   6.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 1 further comprising:

2   compressing said electronic message further using one or more alternate

3 compression techniques.

1   8.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 7 wherein one of said strings of characters

2 is an electronic mail (email) [email] address domain.

1   9.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 1 further comprising:

2   encoding portions of text in said electronic message not in said block of data

3 using 6-bits per character.

1   10.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 1 wherein said <u>electronic</u> message is an

2   <u>electronic mail (email)</u> [email] message.

1   11.   (Amended)   A system[for compressing messages] comprising:

2   message identification logic for identifying a previous <u>electronic</u> message which

3   contains a block of data found in a new <u>electronic</u> message;

4   state-based compression logic for compressing said <u>new electronic</u> message by

5   replacing said block of data with a pointer identifying said block of data in said previous

6   <u>electronic</u> message.

1   12.   (Amended)   The system as in claim 11 further comprising:

2   transmission logic for transmitting said <u>new electronic</u> message to a data

3   processing device, said data processing device having said previous <u>electronic</u> message

4   stored thereon.

1   13.   (Amended)   The system as in claim 12 further comprising:

2   decompression logic to decompress said <u>electronic</u> message on said wireless data

3   processing device by inserting said block of data from said previous <u>electronic</u> message

4   into said <u>new electronic</u> message.

1   14.   (Amended)   The system as in claim 11 wherein said message identification

2   logic identifies said previous <u>electronic</u> message based on characters in <u>a subject field of</u>

3   said <u>new electronic message</u> [message's subject field].

1   15.   (Amended)   The system as in claim 14 wherein said characters include text

2   indicating that said <u>new electronic</u> message is a response to said previous <u>electronic</u>

3   message.

1   16.   (Amended)   The system as in claim 11 further comprising:

2   one or more alternate compression modules for compressing said <u>new electronic</u>

3   message further using one or more alternate compression techniques.

1   18.   (Amended)   The system as in claim 17 wherein one of said strings of characters

2   is an <u>electronic mail (email)</u> [email] address domain.

1 19.   (Amended)   The system as in claim 16 wherein one of said alternate

2 compression modules comprises a 6-bit text encoding module to encode portions of text

3 in said new electronic message not in said block of data using 6-bits per character.

1 20.   (Amended)   The system as in claim 11 wherein said new electronic message is

2 an electronic mail (email) [email] message.

1 21.   (Amended)   A method comprising:

2   providing an interface to a message service, said interface compressing messages

3 and forwarding said compressed messages to a data processing device,

4   wherein said interface compresses [a] an electronic message by searching for

5 prior electronic messages transmitted to or received from said data processing device

6 which [contain] include a block of data found in said electronic message and replacing

7 said block of data with a pointer to said block of data in said prior electronic messages.

1 22.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 21 wherein said electronic message is an

2 electronic mail (email) [email] message.

1 23.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 21 further comprising:

2   transmitting said electronic message to a data processing device, said data

3 processing device having said previous electronic message stored.

1 24.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 22 further comprising:

2   decompressing said electronic message at said data processing device by inserting

3 said block of data from said previous electronic message into said electronic message.

1 25.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 21 wherein said interface identifies said

2 previous electronic message based on characters in a subject message of said electronic

3 message [message's subject field].

1 26.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 25 wherein said characters include text

2 indicating that said electronic message is a response to said previous electronic message.

1   27.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 21 wherein said interface further

2   compresses said <u>electronic</u> message further using one or more alternate compression

3   techniques.

1   29.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 28 wherein one of said strings of

2   characters is an <u>electronic mail (email)</u> [email] address domain.

1   30.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 21 wherein said interface further

2   compresses said <u>electronic</u> message by encoding portions of text in said <u>electronic</u>

3   message not in said block of data using 6-bits per character.